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connected with the 'decline and fall' of the Irish parliament" (p. vii). The result is a clear, concise history of that institution during the last thirty-three years of its existence, with an introductory chapter on conditions previous to 1767. The style is pleasing.

Although these qualities may recommend the book to the "general reader," for whom it was apparently intended (p. vii), its positive contribution to our knowledge is small. Several volumes of correspondence published by the Historical Manuscripts Commission and the Macartney papers are mentioned in the preface (p. v), but they have not been drawn upon heavily. There are new facts about the corruption during the viceroyalty of Townshend, additional light on the attitude of Pitt and Rutland in 1784 and 1785 towards the questions of reform of the Irish parliament and Irish commercial relations, and items here and there on various aspects of the subject. There is little else that has not been told already by well-known writers.

As a summary of the existing literature on the subject the book is also of doubtful utility. The author states that although hundreds of writers have been consulted, most of them have yielded little (p. vii). Froude and Lecky seem to have furnished the bulk of the material. The works of these historians differ much in critical value, but the author appears to follow sometimes the one, sometimes the other without manifest principles of selection. The scarcity of footnotes adds to the difficulty, and is especially regrettable in the case of citations which constitute a liberal part of his narrative. One-fourth of chapters V and VI, for example, is enclosed within inverted commas. Of these citations over sixty per cent can be found in the pages of Froude and Lecky, where much of it is likewise enclosed. Quotations made both by Mr. Fisher and by Mr. Froude or Mr. Lecky are often presented by Mr. Fisher as statements of contemporaries, but, since he rarely indicates the sources whence he derived such quotations, it is difficult to ascertain whether they are what contemporaries said, or what Mr. Froude or Mr. Lecky said contemporaries said. Since Mr. Froude's citations from original sources are frequently incorrect, this impairs the value of Mr. Fisher's work. His laxity in this respect may be explained, perhaps, by his own disregard for the sanctity of quotation-marks (*e. g.*, pp. 154, 190-191, 227, 269, 311). These inherent characteristics make it necessary to use the book, if at all, with caution.

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Fite, Emerson D. *The Presidential Campaign of 1860.* Pp. xiii, 356. Price, \$2.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

This book deals with the most important Presidential campaign ever waged in this country. In a way our entire history was in preparation for it. Consequently to understand it one must read our history, certainly from 1776 up to that time. But one cannot compress all this into a brief volume and then give the history of the campaign proper. Professor Fite had one of two courses open to him, either to give a bare synopsis so meager in

details as to be practically valueless or to fix upon some nearby period and give details full of great significance. He wisely chose the latter and started in with a reasonably full account of the John Brown episode and its influence on public feeling. This is followed up by a summary of Helper's "Impending Crisis," with a description of the contest for speaker which it precipitated and the consequent discussion of slavery in and out of congress. Considerable space is devoted to the last named subject and the treatment is not confined to the campaign year. The friction over the rendition of fugitive slaves and the enforcement of the personal liberty laws, the agitation over the slave trade, the treatment of free negroes both in the North and South, and the discord in the churches are properly discussed as necessary for an understanding of the popular mind in 1860. A chapter is devoted to the national conventions of each party. The author does not accept the theory that the rupture at Charleston was the result of a conspiracy whose ultimate object was to destroy the Union. A long chapter is devoted to the campaign arguments, which center around slavery, but which also include the corruption of the administration, expansion (for slavery extension), the supreme court (slavery), popular sovereignty (slavery), disunion (slavery), the tariff, internal improvement, the Pacific railroad, the Pacific telegraph and the homestead act, the last of which had been vetoed by Buchanan. A closing chapter describes the conduct of the campaign. An appendix of one hundred pages gives the party platforms and the campaign speeches made by Schurz, Douglas, Yancey, and Brownlow.

In this book Professor Fite displays a pretty thorough mastery of his subject and has produced a volume that will be of great value to students of history. The reviewer has only one serious criticism to make, that the author has failed to add a chapter giving detailed analysis of the results of the election. It is not enough simply to give results by states. The county returns throughout the entire South and the Northwest will repay a careful study.

The following sounds strange in 1911 to the son of a slave holder: "Both sides were right! Neither could have given in and remained true to itself. The North was right in opposing slavery, the South was right in seceding from the Union in its defense." But it was preceded by this: "They [the South] believed that slavery was right. . . . With this assumption in their minds, no other course than secession from the Union for the protection of their vast property was possible." On the same principle the secession of the railroad and trust magnates would be justifiable to-day.

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Haney, Lewis H. *History of Economic Thought.* Pp. xviii, 567. Price, \$2.00. New York: Macmillan Company, 1911.

There has been great need for a comprehensive history of economic thought in English. The writer has ventured to cover the entire field, his aim being "to present a critical account of the whole development of economic thought